Aid for Indira Lift Scheme in Rajasthan

†757. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide adequate financial aid to Government of Rajasthan for middle level irrigation projects;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to sanction the said project at the earliest by providing hundred per cent aid for Indira Lift Scheme at River Chambal; and

(c) if so, by when the said sanction will be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigating, funding along with priority, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control, primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves.

Central Government has launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the Major and Medium Irrigation Projects, which are in an advanced stage of completion. The Government of Rajasthan has not yet proposed Indira Lift Scheme for CLA under AIBP.

Danger due to siltation of Kharasrota river in Orissa

758. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "12 villages face threat of watery grave", in Orissa which appeared in the New Indian Express dated the 17th November, 2002;

(b) whether Kharasrota river is posing a danger to the villages;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether heavy siltation over the last five years has made the river change its course; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to help the State to save the villages and their crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Flood Management including river erosion being a State subject, investigation, planning and implementation of flood management schemes are within the purview of the State Government. The Central Government renders assistance which are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The Government of Orissa has informed that they are aware of the fact regarding the problem of villages on the bank of Kharasrota river and the Kharasrota river is posing danger to the villagers at 29 locations in its deltaic area for which the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of State Flood Control Board has cleared project proposals costing Rs. 254.25 lakh. As further informed that though the bank of the river Kharasrota has been eroded at some places and also siltation has occurred, the course of the river has not been changed. The protection measures at one location at Siko have been taken by the State Government and we have been informed by the State Government that further protection measures shall be taken up by them subject to availability of funds.

Accumulation of water in the Ganga basin

†759. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that additional water accumulates in Ganga river basin during the rainy season;

(b) if so, the quantum of such additional water;

(c) whether it is also a fact that large area of dry land can be made fertile by mixing this additional water in Cauvery river water; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.